

Claims

1. In a large round baler supported on wheels carried at opposite ends of a horizontal, transverse axle fixed to a frame of the baler, and including a baling chamber having opposite side walls defined in part by a bale discharge gate movable between a lowered baling position and a raised bale discharge position defining an outlet through which a bale may fall to the ground, a longitudinally extending bale unloading arrangement mounted to the baler for pivoting vertically between a raised bale-receiving position and a lowered, bale-depositing position, with movement from said bale-receiving position to said bale-depositing position being against an upwardly directed biasing force, the improvement comprising: said bale unloading arrangement including a carrier attached to said large round baler so as to move vertically; and a bale take-up device including a trough-shaped bale-receiving member and being mounted to said carrier for being guided between a forward position, wherein said bale-receiving member is located below, and facing said outlet of said baling chamber when said discharge gate is in said raised bale discharge position, and a rearward position facing away from said outlet when said bale unloading arrangement is in said bale-depositing position.
2. The large round baler, as defined in claim 1, wherein said carrier has a forward end attached to said axle, so as to pivot vertically; and said biasing force being supplied by a compression spring.
3. The large round baler, as defined in claim 1, wherein said carrier includes a longitudinal guide rail assembly having a straight major section joined to a downwardly and rearwardly angled minor section; said major section being substantially parallel to the ground when said bale unloading arrangement is in said bale-receiving position; and said take-up device including front and rear rotatable assemblies mounted for movement along said guide rail assembly such that when at least said front rotatable assembly descends said minor section of said guide rail assembly said bale-receiving member will face upwardly to the rear.
5. The large round baler, as defined in claim 1, wherein a powered, reversible bale take-up drive is coupled between said bale take-up device and

said carrier for moving said bale take-up device fore-and-aft along said carrier.

6. The large round baler, as defined in claim 1, wherein said bale take-up device includes a carriage frame and an upper bale-receiving member mounted to said carriage frame for pivoting vertically about a fore-and-aft extending axis between a bale-receiving position and a bale-depositing position; and a powered tilt device being coupled between said carriage frame and said bale-receiving member for selectively moving said bale-receiving member between said bale-receiving and bale-depositing positions, whereby a bale carried by said bale-receiving member may be deposited on its end.

7. The large round baler, as defined in claim 6, wherein said carrier is mounted to said baler for transverse shifting movement; and a powered shift device being coupled between said baler and said carrier for selectively shifting the latter transversely to an unloading position adjacent one side of said baler, whereby a bale may be deposited on its end at a location outside a path traveled by the baler once the carrier is shifted to said unloading position.